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A LUCKY DISAPPOINTMENT.

BY FLORENCE MARRYAT.

CHAPTER VI.

I went up to the old gentleman and shook his hand.

"Mr. Hamilton, during the short period that we have been acquainted you have spoken kindly of and to me. I am much obliged to you for it. I would gladly comply with any request of yours which did not interfere with my idea of what is right; but in this case it would do so; going back to Rosenwald would imply that I still intend to marry your son, and that is now quite out of the question."

"No such thing, my dear—no such thing!" exclaimed the old man. "This has been an unfortunate misunderstanding between you, which a little talk will soon clear away."

"No talking can undo facts," I answered; "I have seen the letters which your son wrote to Mademoiselle von Beck, and comprehend fully now why he was so anxious to marry me, whilst he was making love to another woman."

"Not making love," interposed Charles, eagerly; "it was simply a piece of nonsense, Laura; a flirtation pour passer le temps."

I regarded him with contempt. "Was it 'pour passer le temps' that you spent your money upon that woman, Charles? that you dared to discuss my name in your letters to her, and to assert that you fulfilled your engagement to me merely on compulsion, and because your father had threatened you otherwise with the loss of his partnership?"

At this question he shrunk awfully, into himself, and my attention returned to Mr. Hamilton.

"I don't wish to defend my son," said the latter; "I know that he has behaved very foolishly—wrongly, if you please; but my belief is, Miss Grey, that few marriages would take place in this world were strict fidelity insisted on beforehand, especially when such an ordeal as six years' separation is taken into consideration. Charles' fault has been one of the head more than the heart, and I can see that he is already deeply regrets it."

"He regrets that I have heard of it," I said, shortly.

"And of the deed itself, my dear young lady, which, whether in jest or in earnest, was utterly foolish and ill advised. But I am sure, notwithstanding that he retains a very sincere affection for yourself, and if you love him—"

"But I don't love him," I said decidedly.

"They both stared at me—the old man incredulously, Charles more incredulously still."

"I can see you don't believe it," I continued; "and considering that I undertook so long a journey expressly to become his wife, I must upon a first hearing, sound strange to you. But I did not know it myself until I met him again. I loved Charles as a boy; but he is no longer what I loved, and my affection has disappeared with the qualities that provoked it. This is the whole truth; and though, had I believed him faithful to me, I could have kept my promise to the very letter, yet, having been compelled to speak were there not another man in the world, I could never now consent to be his wife."

And having said my say, I turned aside, though the subject were concluded.

"But Mr. Hamilton re-commenced his entreaties."

"Miss Grey, pray come back with me to Rosenwald; you must indeed. You can scarcely have considered what a scandal your remaining at this hotel will cause. Come to Rosenwald, if only until matters are finally settled between you."

"As far as I am concerned they are already settled," I replied, firmly. "I shall never be the wife of your son, Mr. Hamilton, and, therefore, Rosenwald is no place for me. Besides, I decline to accept the hospitality of ladies

who could stand by, knowing me to be deceived, and permit me to remain so."

"But all that will soon be forgotten," he urged, if you will but return. Charles would never have married Mademoiselle von Beck with my consent, Miss Grey; and he is ready now to promise upon his honor never even to speak to her again."

"I will not be the means of putting so painful a restraint upon his inclinations," I answered, proudly. "If Charles Hamilton chose to bestow his name upon a negress to-morrow it would make no difference in the world to me; for he and I are virtually parted forever."

"But what are your plans, what do you intend to do?" he asked with surprise.

"I have scarcely made any yet," I answered, "but I believe that I shall stay here until an opportunity offers for me to return to England."

"But to go to Langley unmarried—you who sailed thence for that specific purpose, Miss Grey?"

"You think it will be a shame to me, Mr. Hamilton; a disgrace that will cleave to me all my life. Perhaps so; but I should take great shame to myself could I consent to forget the manner in which Charles has written to me; the disgrace lay in my consenting to join one of whom I evidently knew so little."

"But where are your funds?" said the old man, advancing toward me. "Miss Grey, if you are bent upon this proceeding (of which I earnestly entreat you to consider twice) you must allow me to furnish you with the means of returning to your mother's care."

"Your intentions are kind, Mr. Hamilton; but you must think poorly of my pride if you imagine I could accept your offer."

"But how else can you obtain a passage?"

"I know not," I said vehemently; "but I feel this, that I would rather beg, borrow, or steal the money than take it from you. That I will work as a dressmaker or a servant, in order to obtain it, rather than be indebted to any one of the name of Hamilton again. It has too bitter a sound to me. I am not ungrateful to you, I hope; but no persuasion shall make me accept your assistance. I would rather die of want in Cape town—"

"You are obstinate, young lady," he replied, buttoning up his pocket again, "and I fear you may have cause to regret your refusal. However, I have said all that I can think of to persuade you to do what is wise; and therefore I conclude it is of no use my staying here any longer."

He turned to quit the room as he spoke. Charles lingered behind.

"Laura, is there no chance for me?" he said, pleadingly.

"Not the slightest," I answered, in a cold voice.

"But if you would only listen," he urged, "I think I could exchange myself a little in your eyes. You see, six years is a devilish long time, Laura, and perhaps your beauty had somewhat lost its influence over me, and then a man meets with so many temptations that a woman never dreams of; but directly I met you again, and saw your eyes and hair and figure lovelier even than when I parted with you, all my affection revived, it did, indeed; it came back fresher than ever; and now I wouldn't change you for any woman in the world—if you would only believe it," he added, mournfully.

"Too late, Charles!" I said; "carelessly; 'you see you wrote all this sort of thing in your letters to me, and I did believe it; and perhaps you remember the proverb, 'Once bit, twice shy.'"

"You have no heart," he said, angrily.

"Not for you, I confess it; but though I feel now that I have been keeping faith all these years with a shadow, it was faith, Charles, true and undoubted; and I never

resorted to nonsense in any shape, in order to make the time pass, until I consented to join you here."

"Of course, if you are determined to harp on that theme, it is of no use attempting to argue with you. You are like all your sex, Laura—utterly hard and unforgiving where another woman is concerned."

"Not so, Charles. For my own sake I must condescend to refute the accusation. Had you deserted me for Mademoiselle von Beck, and been honest enough to let me know it, I could have forgiven you though perhaps not all at once; but it is the deceit you have practiced which has so disenchanted me. Your letters never failed or varied in their acknowledged expressions of attachment; you have tried to do the cruellest thing of which a man is capable toward a woman, in comparison to which open infidelity is kindness; to let me marry you under the belief that your heart was entirely mine, and that in the very eyes of the woman to whom you had made so light of your supposed affection for me. It was a mean, cowardly act to contemplate, Charles, especially toward one who so trusted you as to cheerfully leave all her friends for your sake."

Then, as he was shrinking out the room looking terribly ashamed I remembered that I had loved him, and my speech appeared bitter to myself.

"Don't go yet," I added, hastily; "we may not meet again. Let us, at least, shake hands and part friends."

"Oh, Laura! Can't you forgive me?"

"Yes—freely," I answered, in a cheerful tone; "and the more so, that I have not been unduly deceived. Had that been the case, I am afraid to think what I should have felt toward you."

"But the talk that this will raise," he complained; "the unpleasantness for you."

"Fear nothing for me, Charles. I will take care of myself, and not permit the talk to make me too unhappy. Now, now, good-bye, and my worst wish for us both is, that we may speedily forget all this annoyance."

"I shall never forget it," he said in a mournful voice, as he left the room.

And, notwithstanding my boasted indifference, I also felt that it would be long before the trace left by the occurrences of the last few days would be erased from the surface of my life.

After I had retired to rest I thought long and deeply over the interview that had passed. I had told Mr. Hamilton very glibly that I would work as a dressmaker or a servant to obtain my passage money, sooner than lay myself under any further obligation to him; but I knew it was a thing easier said than done. After much cogitation I believed that my best plan would be to remain quietly where I was until I had communicated the fact of my intended return to my mother. I had a small sum of money which I had brought out with me, and which I believed to be sufficient to maintain me until I heard from England; then, if my parent was unable to let me have what I required, I would try and get my passage paid home by some lady in return for my services; an opportunity which, my landlady informed me, occurred by almost every homeward-bound vessel which put into Table Bay.

The young are not apt to anticipate difficulties in their way; I felt quite sure that by some mode or other my path would be made easy to me, and fell a-leap under the full conviction that, in the end, all would come right.

But the next morning, as I was sitting at breakfast, Claude Hamilton suddenly walked into the room, and my heart gave a great, glad leap at the sight of him, which made me feel that to leave the Cape again would be sorry work for more reasons than one. He looked very sad at the turn things had taken, and he showed

no hesitation in alluding to the cause of his finding me there, although his sympathy was uttered in a hesitating voice.

"Miss Grey—I am so ashamed—so bitterly ashamed—of all this! You need not be, Mr. Hamilton, it is no fault of yours."

"But it is my family who have brought it on you."

"You are not responsible for the sins of your family, and I have never connected you with them—even in thought."

"Thank you," he said, earnestly; and then, after a pause: "Is it true you are determined to go home?"

"Quite true! What else could I do?"

"I am sure I don't know, but it seems very dreadful—that you should have been asked and entreated to leave your own home for ours, and then—that this should be the upshot! Charles has behaved shamefully, infamously to you, and had I my will you should have heard of it long ago."

"I wish I had," I answered; "but as it is, it is useless to discuss the subject. It may seem strange to you to hear me say so, Mr. Hamilton, but I am thankful now that it has happened."

"So am I," he said, abruptly.

"It is far better I should have discovered it before than after my marriage, and from the moment I met your brother (you won't be offended with me for saying this) I felt that I had been living under a delusion, and that I did not love him."

TO BE CONTINUED.

"Foley's Honey and Tar is one of the standard medicines used in the Working Women's Home Association, at 21 South Peoria street, Chicago." DR. BLISS, Med. Sup't.

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C. F. BICKHAUS, Roseland, Ill.

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Try Electric Bitters as a remedy for your troubles! If not, get a bottle now and get relief. This medicine has been found to be particularly adapted to the relief and cure of all Female Complaints, exerting a wonderfully direct influence in giving strength and tone to the organs. If you have loss of appetite, constipation, headache, fainting spells, or are nervous, sleepless, excitable, melancholy or troubled with dizzy spells, electric bitters is the medicine you need. Health and strength are guaranteed by its use. Large bottles only fifty cents at B. F. Henry's drug store.

A Household Treasure.

D. W. Fuller, of Canajoharie, N. Y., says that he always keeps Dr. King's New Discovery in the house and his family has always found the very best results follow its use; that he never was without it, if procurable. G. A. Dykeman Druggist, Catskill, N. Y., says that Dr. King's New Discovery is undoubtedly the best Cough remedy; that he has used it in his family for eight years, and it has never failed to do all that is claimed for it. Why not try a remedy so long tried and tested. Trial bottle free at B. F. Henry's drug store. Regular size 50c and \$1.00.

Notice.

Notice is hereby given that letters of administration upon the estate of Charles F. Homes deceased, late of Adair county, Mo., have been granted to the undersigned S. Thomas Wilson by the Probate Court of the county of Adair, bearing date the 7th day of Sept. 1895. All persons having claims against said estate are required to exhibit them to me for allowance within one year after the date of said letters, or they may be precluded from any benefit of such estate; and if such claims be not exhibited within two years from the time of the publication of this notice they will be forever barred. S. THOMAS WILSON, ADMINISTRATOR.

The Great St. Louis Fair.

The 35th annual St. Louis fair, to be held at the Fair grounds, St. Louis, from October 7th to 12th, inclusive, will be the greatest in the history of this famous institution. Not only will the exhibits be more varied, more numerous and more attractive than in former years, but the educational attractions that have been provided for public entertainment and education, will be more novel, fascinating and instructive than were ever seen at a Fair in the West before.

The Mining Camp of '49' will present a realistic picture of a California mining camp of the feverish gold days of 1849.

The Aztec Village will exhibit the mode of life of the ancient Cliff Dwellers of New Mexico—that mysterious people of whom so much has been written.

The "Wild East" will present a striking picture of Bedouin life of the deserts of Arabia. A feature of this entertainment will be an Oriental wedding procession, such as we read of in the Bible.

Herr Granada, the most celebrated high-wire walker in the world, and a man who performs marvels beyond belief, will give daily exhibitions of his most daring feats on a wire stretched across the amphitheatre.

These are only a few of the striking and instructive attractions that will be seen at the great St. Louis Fair of 1895.

Be sure to see time your visit that you will be able to avail yourself of the rate of one fare for the round trip to St. Louis Fair, tickets being good from October 5th up to and including October 14th, 1895.

One advantage of taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla to purify the blood is that you need not infringe upon your hours of labor nor deny yourself any food that agrees with you. In a word, you are not compelled to starve or loaf, while taking it. These are recommendations worth considering.

Found.

At B. F. Henry's drug store, a marvelous cure for all kidney complaints, nervous exhaustion and female weakness. It is the Clinic Kidney Cure.

ORDER OF PUBLICATION

In Vacation, Sept. 4, 1895.

State of Missouri, } ss.
County of Adair, }

In the Circuit Court of Adair county, October term 1895.

John L. Rice, plaintiff,
vs.
George Cochran and the unknown heirs of George Cochran and Margaret Cochran, defendants.

AT this day comes the plaintiff herein by his attorneys, Storm & Evans, before the undersigned clerk of the Circuit court in vacation and files his petition and affidavit alleging among other things, that defendants, George Cochran and Margaret Cochran, are non-residents of the state of Missouri, and are interested in the subject matter of his said petition and suit whose names he cannot insert herein, because they are unknown to him. That the said unknown parties derive their said interest as the legal representatives and heirs at law of Caleb M. Pomeroy and Nancy Pomeroy, deceased, former owners of the lands herein described.

Whereupon it is ordered by the clerk aforesaid that said defendants be notified by publication that said plaintiff has commenced a suit against them in this court, the object and general nature of which is to divest the defendants, William Ellis and Harriet Ellis, the unknown heirs of William Ellis and Harriet Ellis of any and all right, title and interest claim or demand, if any they have in and to the following described land lying, being and situated in Adair county and state of Missouri, to-wit:

The northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of section five, township six, range six, and vest the title thereto in the plaintiff by virtue of the Statute of Limitation, and that unless the said defendants, George Cochran and Margaret Cochran, and the unknown heirs of George Cochran and Margaret Cochran, do appear at this court at the next term thereof to be begun and holden at the Court House in the city of Kirksville in said county on the 8th day of October next, and on or before the sixth day of said term, answer or plead to the petition in said cause, the same will be taken as confessed and judgment rendered accordingly.

And it is further ordered that a copy hereof be published according to law, in the Weekly Graphic, a newspaper published in the city of Kirksville in Adair county and state of Missouri.

State of Missouri, } ss.
County of Adair, }

I, Grant Corbin, clerk of the Circuit court of Adair county aforesaid, hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Original Order of Publication, in the cause therein named as the same appears in my office.

Witness my hand as Clerk and the seal of said court, done at office in Kirksville this 4th day of Sept., 1895.

GRANT CORBIN, Clerk.



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